





# ELLEN OSBORN'S FASHION LETTER

Airy, Diaphanous Gowns of Brilliant Colors Worn by New York Women in Midsummer.

—Copyright, 1898

Quiet summer dinners with many flowers are a favorite mode of entertaining. At an old-fashioned house on Washington square the hostess spreads no tablecloth, but arranges squares of drawn work under each covert, setting silver candelabra and bowls of ferns up and down the strip of rich dark oak in the middle. A studio dinner was served at a round table whose entire spread of rose-pink gauze was puffed into mounds and hollows, where nestled pink, yellow, red and white roses with their own foliage. A low silver bowl filled with roses and ferns occupied the middle. Poppy dinners have been given, and dinners where lilies, yellow and mauve, formed the principal decoration. Chaplets and rosettes of nasturtiums or sweet peas are arranged with the wire bases that florists use and dotted about a table with vines or trails of green connecting them.

Toliettes for such midsummer festivities are as airy and diaphanous as may be. The hostess at a luncheon party wore white Swiss muslin, the skirt trained and adorned with lace and narrow white satin ribbon. A quaint scarf of blue chiffon was thrown about the shoulders and tied in front with floating ends. Blue and white bachelors' buttons with feathery green entered into the scheme of table decoration.

A guest was in black silk muslin, dotted with white and adorned with blue ribbon. Louis XVI. knots, and insertions of both black and white valenciennes. Another lady wore navy blue lawn as transparent as muslin

chemisette was of the cool, collarless variety. Blue velvet Louis knots at waist and shoulder repeated the tints of the succory flowers upon the leg-horn hat and of the huge blue parasol. A park toilette that attracted attention yesterday was of black and white striped foulard; the groundwork white, the stripes appearing at wide intervals and somewhat pronounced. Like so many of this season's dresses, the fullness was due to the cut; the skirt was neither flounced nor made into a double skirt, but the fringed trimming was so put on as to give the appearance of a long, drooping overskirt with pointed sides. A tomato-red velvet waistband was in daring contrast.

A pale coffee-colored muslin was embroidered in a delicate blush-rose pink and made with a chemisette of rose-toned gauze. The waistband was Parma violet color. A pink parasol was carried.

A red and white foulard was accentuated by Louis knots of black velvet and worn with a rustic hat of red straw with other Louis knots fastening large red poppies.

A dark blue foulard had skirt and shoulders frilled with white lisse, edged with light green velvet ribbon. With this appeared a white hat turned up in front and trimmed with a tomato-red bow and four outstretched black and white wings.

The coolest shirt waists are made of linen batiste set into many tucks, alternating with insertions and finished, perhaps, with a transparent lace yoke, run with black or colored velvet rib-



MIDSUMMER CITY COSTUMES.

and inlet down the skirt and about the flounce with white valenciennes. The fichu bodice showed a chemisette of tucked white lace and lawn.

Backyard parties have become the fashion with women whom war or business exigencies have kept at home, and given that not unusual possession, a grape arbor, or a sheltering tree with vines to screen the fences, worse places for outdoor teas or lunches can be imagined. One garden nook thus thrown open was almost blinding to the eyes with flame-colored nasturtiums overrunning everything. On a broad back porch screened from the sun and carpeted with Dhurrie russet was served by two sisters, one wearing green muslin embroidered in gray and sashed with red chiffon, and the other gray muslin with rich emerald green sash and nasturtiums on the shoulder.

At a garden party in Brooklyn a vacant lot was made good to look at with huge Japanese umbrella canopies, palms and banana trees. Organdie muslins were in force, broadly striped with flowers. One charming costume was patterned with garlands of roses and trimmed with insertions of yellow gaulthier. The sleeves, half long, were met by suede gloves; the hat was a sunburst straw with crown of white muslin and trimmings of long white ostrich plumes. A turquoise-blue muslin dress was made very simply; small tucks encircled skirt and sleeves from top to bottom, alternating with bands of insertion in black valenciennes; sleeves to the elbow were finished with loop bows of black velvet ribbon. The large flat Manila straw hat was trimmed with black ostrich plumes and turned up on one side, with an enormous rosette of blue mousseline de soie. And a foamy white parasol!

A vivid sulphur-colored muslin was toned down with black lace insertions. A white spotted muslin was made with three skirts edged with ecru lace, mounted on a white silk foundation. The folded bodies with transparent

bon. The old fight still rages over the question, thick or thin.

"I wouldn't take that for a gift," said a girl to a companion, who was exclaiming over a dainty thing in white lawn. "It's sure to be mussed after one wearing. White pique, now will do you some service; it always looks well."

"Oh, but pique is so hot," groaned the first girl. "I can't abide it." And they continued to pull over the whole stock of the saleswoman.

In one of the big shops the other day a delicately pretty girl, evidently a bride, and as evidently from out of town, was choosing costumes with the assistance of her young husband. A white muslin was brought out, lavishly embroidered with motifs in black chintilly.

"But that's so old," objected the customer; "and besides it's half mourning."

"Not at all, I assure you," said the saleswoman. "Positively there is nothing else so fashionable."

"It wouldn't go at all at home, do you think so?" questioned the wife and the husband emphatically agreed that it would not go.

Black and white has become to general as to threaten monotony, and it do not think the unsophisticated bride was far wrong in preferring a white Swiss muslin with three flounces and opening in front over a panel of fine embroidered net; lapels of the same net crossed over the V at the throat and fastened under a green velvet bow. A Swiss muslin hat adorned with green tulle and corn flowers completed the outfit.

Another of the bride's purchases was a pale blue pique made with a deep, shaped flounce and intended to be worn with a short tabbed jacket of red cloth, the front tabs longer than those behind. The jacket opened upon a blue lawn blouse whose broad collar of lace and insertion turned over the jacket collar and covered the shoulders.

ELLEN OSBORN.

## WITH GENERAL MILES

Porto Rican Army Advancing on the Capital.

SCHWAN'S FIGHT AT HORMIGUEROS.

Drops Twelve Hundred Spaniards From the Hills—Lieutenant Byron Wounded and Two Privates Killed—Enemy's Loss Heavy—Coamo's Capture.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The war department late yesterday afternoon received the following dispatch from General Miles:

"The following message received from Schwan: 'Camp near Hormigueros, 10th.—Advance guard, including cavalry of this command, while reconnoitering north-west of Rosario river near Hormigueros, developed strong Spanish force which lay concealed in hills north of Mayaguez. In general engagement that followed Lieutenant Byron, Eighth cavalry, my aid de camp, was wounded in foot and Private Fernberger, Company D, Eleventh infantry, and one other private were killed and 14 enlisted men were wounded. It is reported that the most if not the entire Spanish garrison of Mayaguez and surrounding country, consisting of 1,000 regulars and 200 volunteers, took part in this engagement. We drove enemy from his position and, it is believed, inflicted heavy loss. A wounded Spanish lieutenant was found on field and brought into our lines. Conduct of officers and men was beyond all praise. I propose to continue my march on Mayaguez at early hour tomorrow.'"

The following dispatch from General Miles, which had been delayed in transmission, was given out at the same time:

"The following received from General Wilson: 'General Ernst's brigade captured Coamo 8:30 this morning. Sixteenth Pennsylvania, Colonel Hullings commanding, led by Lieutenant Colonel Biddle of my staff, having made a turning movement through the mountains, striking the Alconito road half a mile beyond town, captured the entire garrison of Coamo, about 150 men. Spanish Commander Illeroa and Captain Lopez killed. Our loss reported six wounded, only one severely. Men and officers behaved excellently.'"

"Colonel Hullings and Colonel Biddle are especially to be commended. This is very important capture and well executed. Names of wounded as soon as received here."

### THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Belgian Minister Aids Russia in Opposing the English.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—The Peking correspondent of The Times says: "Baron de Vinok, the Belgian minister, yesterday sent a dispatch to the tsung-li-yamen asserting that M. Pavloff, the Russian charge d'affaires, and M. Gerard, the French minister, had joined him in urging the tsung-li-yamen to disregard the attempt of the British minister, Sir Claude Macdonald, to prevent the ratification of the Peking-Hankow contract."

"It is confidently asserted that, despite the British endeavor to obtain a revision of the contract, an imperial decree will issue forthwith for its ratification. The unfriendly role of the Belgian minister throughout merits the strongest condemnation."

In the house of commons yesterday Mr. A. J. Balfour, the first lord of the treasury and government leader, admitted that the facts set forth in the Peking dispatch to the London Times yesterday were substantially as there set forth.

The correspondent of The Times cabled that the tsung-li-yamen had given formal assent to all the conditions imposed by the Russian charge d'affaires M. Pavloff, regarding the contract for the New-Chwang railroad extension loan, these conditions being in direct conflict with the terms of the signed contract and designed to block the final completion of the contract, the whole movement being designed as a blow at British concessions.

After making the admission referred to yesterday Mr. Balfour added that the matter was "engaging the serious attention of the government." This statement was received with cheers.

A dispatch received here yesterday from Gibraltar says the departure from that place of the British military squadron, which was fixed for Thursday, has been countermanded, and the squadron has been ordered to remain at Gibraltar, while awaiting further orders.

It is not known whether this change in the admiralty's plans has any connection with the situation in the far east.

### Philippines Want Annexation.

HONGKONG, Aug. 12.—The Filipino junta called publicly on Consul General Wildman and declared that their only desire is annexation.

They protested against the reports that Aguinaldo had declined to aid the Americans in the battle of July 31, that he had deserted the trenches and failed to warn the Americans of the Spanish attack.

The junta alleges that Aguinaldo retired his forces from the front trenches below Malate at the request of General Merritt, the same as they retired from Cavite at the request of General Anderson.

The junta says Aguinaldo has kept every promise since he left Hongkong and that his life and the lives of his men are always at the command of General Merritt and Admiral Dewey.

The Spanish consul has chartered a steamer to send to Manila at full speed with the first news that peace is concluded in hopes to save the city from bombardment.

### Offer Accepted.

Nervous Passenger (to mother of howling imp in parlor car)—Madam, is there anything any of us can do to pacify your little boy?

Fond Mother (of spoiled child)—Oh, thank you, yes; you are very kind. You see, the dear little fellow wants to throw his lunch at the passengers, and I'm afraid they won't like it. Just stand where you are, please. Now stop crying, my pet. This kind gentleman wants you to play with him.—N. Y. Weekly.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

WE ARE ASSERTING IN THE COURTS OUR RIGHT TO THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE WORD "CASTORIA," AND "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," AS OUR TRADE MARK.

I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear on every the fac-simile signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* wrapper. This is the original "CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the Mothers of America for over thirty years.

LOOK CAREFULLY at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought and has the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company, of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President. March 24, 1898.

*Samuel Pitcher, M.D.*

Do Not Be Deceived.

Do not endanger the life of your child by accepting a cheap substitute which some druggist may offer you (because he makes a few more pennies on it), the ingredients of which even he does not know.

"The Kind You Have Always Bought" BEARS THE SIGNATURE OF

*Chas. H. Fletcher*

Insist on Having The Kind That Never Failed You.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

WE CAN'T AFFORD TO GIVE TRADING STAMPS.

But We Can Afford and Do Give Our Customers

2,000 Pounds for a Ton of the Best COAL Mined

THOROUGHLY SCREENED, AT REGULAR PRICES.

GORDON & HORTON,

Nos. 12-20 Henry Street.

Telephone No. 181.

## TOMPKINS'

New Dry Goods Store, 35 North St.

Our Money Making August Sales!

August, the month usually called the dullest in the year, is not and shall not be a dull month here. Weeks and weeks ago we began to arrange for a series of special sales, which we are sure will be the most marked bargain attractions that Middletown ever knew in any August within the history of its retail business. This week is the continuation of the great AUGUST CLEARING SALE OF

LAWNS, ORGANDIES, DIMITIES, SHIRT WAISTS, SAILOR HATS AND EVERY ARTICLE OF A SUMMERY NATURE.

All Must Go regardless of price. Your opportunity is at Tompkins'.

### Clearance Sale of Shirt Waists

The most successful season in the history of this stock being nearly finished, we offer the entire balance of stock at the greatest cut values we have ever made. These are all new, fresh goods, bought and made this season for this season's trade.

At 21c Each,

All Shirt Waists that were 20 and 25c, made of good material, with detachable collar, about 30 dozen in this lot. One day's selling will sell but few of this lot left.

At 49c Each,

All Waists that were 50c and 51c each. Only a few in this lot, principally Roman striped, Percales and red Madras stripes.

### Clearance of Skirts and Dresses.

All balance of Ladies' Skirts and Dresses, all made of the best quality summer fabrics. Pique, duck, crash, linen, all this season's goods and latest styles.

### Ladies' Crash Skirts.

Advertised at other stores as a big bargain for 49c, now go to Tompkins' at 50c each.

### Ladies' Crash Skirts.

With silk pin stripes. Were \$2.50 at clearance sale 50c each.

### Millinery.

The new, popular rough straw Sailor. Six dozen in this lot from 75c. They are now marked 50c each. Stylishly trimmed Summer Hats now closing out at just half their former price.

### Lawn, Dimities and Other Wash Fabrics.

Last week we marked down prices on these goods and sold a tremendous quantity of them. There is still enough left to mention them again this week. THINK OF IT, A YARD is closing out price of fine Organdies and Dimities that were 15, 12 1/2 and 10c a yard.

### Think of It, for 3c a Yard

You can buy at Tompkins' Lawns and Dimities that sold for 5 and 10c per yard.

### Think of It, for 5c a Yard

You can buy nice, new Dress Gingham that were 10c a yard.

### Think of It, at 10c a Yard

You can buy very fine 25c quality of White Pique, with colored pin stripes or small colored polka dots.

### Tompkins' Soda Water.

Like everything else Tompkins sells, is good Soda Water. Come and see our soda fountain, the finest in the city. Ice Cream Soda 5c. Soda with fruit ice cream 2c.

### Books for Summer Reading.

1,000 Paper Covered Novels, price 15c. At Tompkins' 5c each. 500 Paper Covered Novels, price 25c. At Tompkins' 5c each.

### Negligee Shirts.

One lot of 6 dozen Soft Negligee Shirts, with no collar, but attached cuffs, were 50c. To close the lot at our clearance sale they are marked 25c each, all sizes.

### Stationery, Perfumery and Small Wares.

### Bay Rum or Florida Water.

Large bottles, 25c.

### 50c Bottles of Perfumery

25c.

### One Pound of Good Writing Paper

10c.

### Good Paper and Envelopes

5c per box.

### One Pound Box

containing 60 sheets of paper and 60 envelopes, 15c per box.

### Envelopes

20 a pack of 34 envelopes.

### Best Envelopes

50 a pack of 34 or 50c a box of 10 packs.

### Safety Pins

5c a dozen.

### Hooks and Eyes

2c a card.

### Outlined Doylies

1c.

### Tooth Brushes

5 and 10c.

### Good Tooth Powder

5c a box.

### Bone Hair Pins

5c a dozen.

### Aluminum Thimbles

10 each.

### Shirt Waist Sets

5, 10, 15 and 20c.

### Cotton Tape

all widths, 2c.

### Large Rolls of Tape,

24 yards on a roll, 2c each.

### Ladies' Standing Collars

1c.

### Ladies' Best Collars

5c.

### Ladies' Wide Turnover Cuffs

5c a pair, worth 10c.

J. W. TOMPKINS.

No. 35 North Street, Middletown.















**Fruit Stains Cleaned**  
**FAIRY SOAP**  
 The Best of the Best

**Granite Preserving Kettles**

We have these in extra large size. Every piece guaranteed perfect. No outside. The best.

**Ice Cream Freezer!**

In the summer. Always have to do it to you in your own kitchen.

**EASY JAR.**

See A. Smith & Son, No. 15 South street.

**Eyes. Eyes. Eyes. Eyes.**  
**I. A. KENNEDY,**  
 27 North St., Middletown.  
**Eyes. Eyes. Eyes. Eyes.**

LADIES, WE HAVE A FEW PAIRS  
 These like soft black and two pairs white left  
 at \$1 a pair. They were \$1.50 a pair.

We have two of them available also for this week  
 at \$1.00 a pair. See them at

**J. & B. Smith, 25 West Main St., Middletown.**

**"THE NEW"**  
**DOCKASHI**  
**NOTHING LIKE IT.**  
**FOR SALE.**

Part of my stock, new Ballerina Club, on short road  
 in Middletown, for \$1000. Do you want it?

**L. E. COLLINS, Insurance and Real Estate.**

**COAL, COAL, COAL!**  
**Wilson & Wood**  
 Laid in the state of New Jersey Coal  
 Office and Yard, No. 15 Depot St.  
**L. E. WILSON. J. D. WOOD**

**TRUNKS!**

Greatest trunk sale in the city. We're bound to  
 sell you one you want. The smallest trunk to box. Every  
 trunk marked very low. Every trunk marked in plain  
 figures. Largest collection in the city. Lowest prices in  
 the city.

**MATTHEWS & CO., 215 South Main St.**

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**FOR SALE.**



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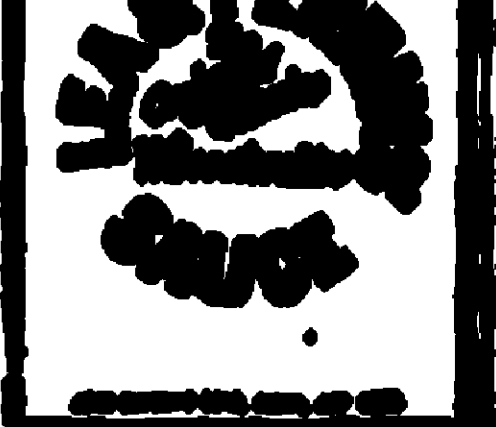
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# TAKING THINGS EASY.

## 40 NOTULI DL.

**45 North St.**